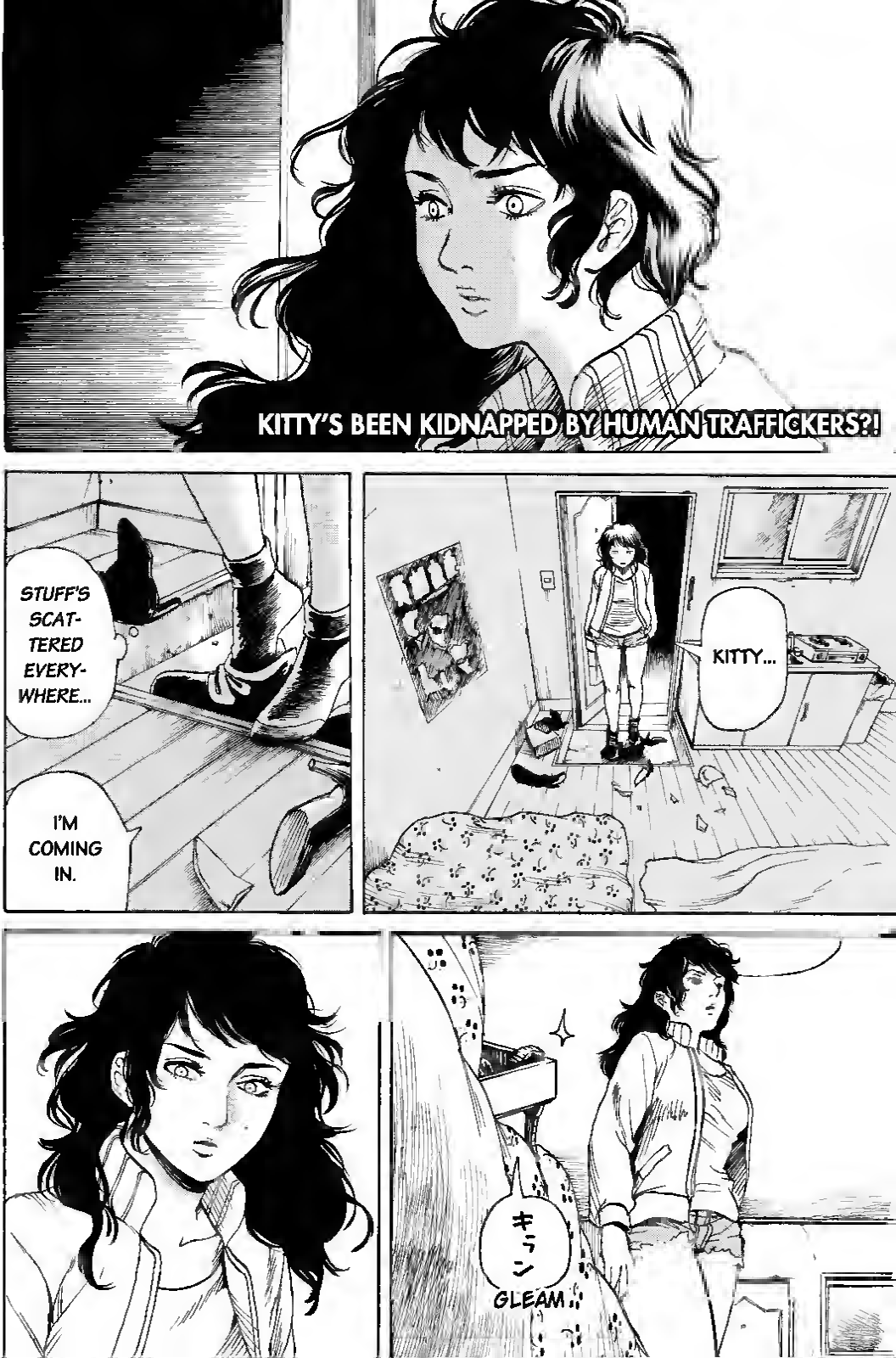
THE SADNESS OF THE SUPERPOWERED

STARLIGHT WOMAN

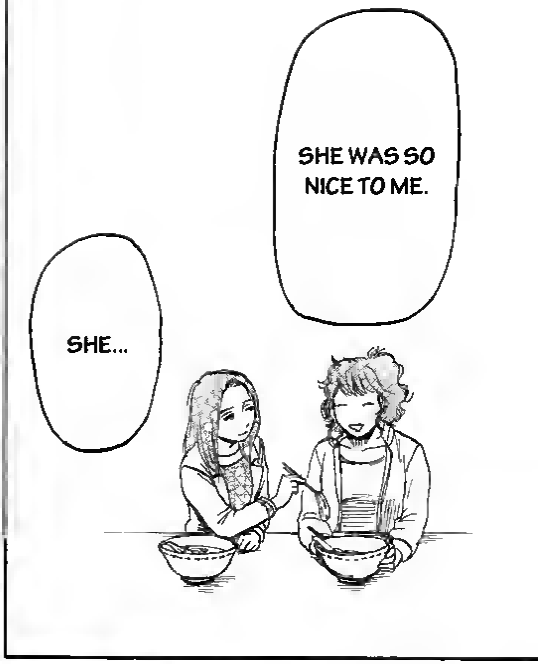
RIE KANOU

CHAPTER 10: A BETTER TOMORROW


KITTY'S BEEN KIDNAPPED BY HUMAN TRAFFICKERS?!
STUFF'S SCATTERED EVERYWHERE...
I'M COMING IN.
KITTY...
キラン
GLEAM

I'VE ONLY OCCASIONALLY HEARD OF THIS. ALL I KNOW FOR SURE IS WHAT THOSE GUYS AT THE PUB WERE THINKING AT THE TIME.
THAT I DON'T KNOW.
HMM... WELL, TWO DAYS AGO, THEY WERE SAYING IT WOULD BE TODAY OR TOMORROW.
RIGHT, SO SHE LEFT THE DOOR UNLOCKED, BUT SHE HASN'T RETURNED.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE SHE'S GONE?
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
CONSIDERING THE SITUATION, IT'D BE APPROPRIATE TO ASSUME SHE'S ALREADY BEEN TAKEN.
BUT..
DON'T STICK YOUR NECK INTO THIS ANY FURTHER. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS.
HOLD ON, NOW. THIS DOESN'T INVOLVE YOU.
REALLY...
THEN I'LL LOOK FOR HER MYSELF. THANKS ANYWAY.
YOU MAY BE RIGHT.
BUT...
BUT...
YOU'RE ONLY COWORKERS. YOU DON'T NEED TO GET INVOLVED.

SHE BE-
CAME...
...MY
FRIEND.


SHE WAS SO
NICE TO ME.
SHE...

THEN GIVE
ME AN-
OTHER
CALL IN
ABOUT TEN
MINUTES.
BUT DON'T
EXPECT
TOO MUCH.
FIRST, GIVE
ME THE
PUB'S
PHONE
NUMBER.
OH?
I'LL AT
LEAST
FIND OUT
WHERE
SHE IS.
OKAY,
I GET
IT.

.....

AH, OKAY...
THANK YOU
VERY MUCH.
THERE'S
SOMETHING
I'D LIKE TO
ASK.
IS THE
ONE IN
CHARGE
PRES-
ENT?

CLICK
TRRING
HELLO,
THIS IS
AGAIN.
OH, HELLO
THANKS
FOR YOUR
BUSI-
NESS, AS
ALWAYS.

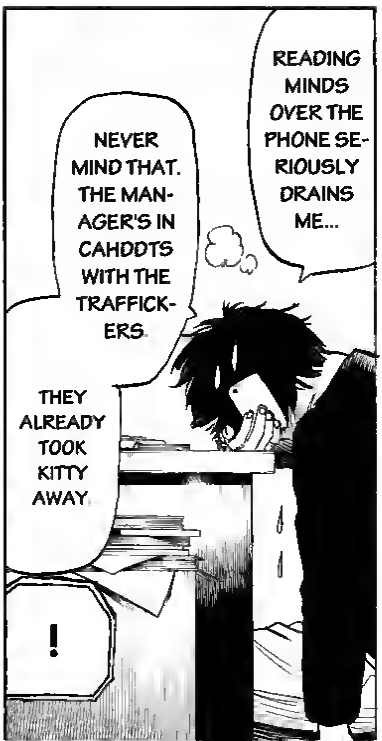
A
FRIEND,
HUH...
RING
TRRING

CREAK

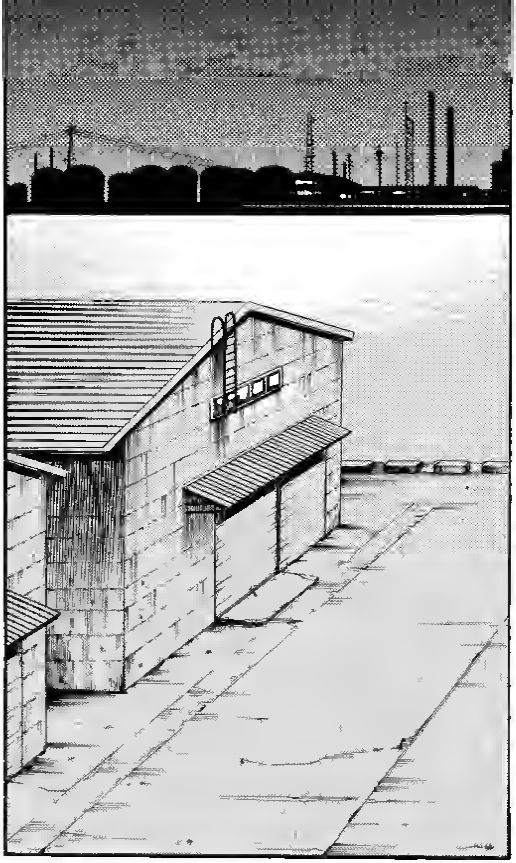
IS THERE A WAITRESS NAMED KITTY AT YOUR PUB?

BULLP
BULLP

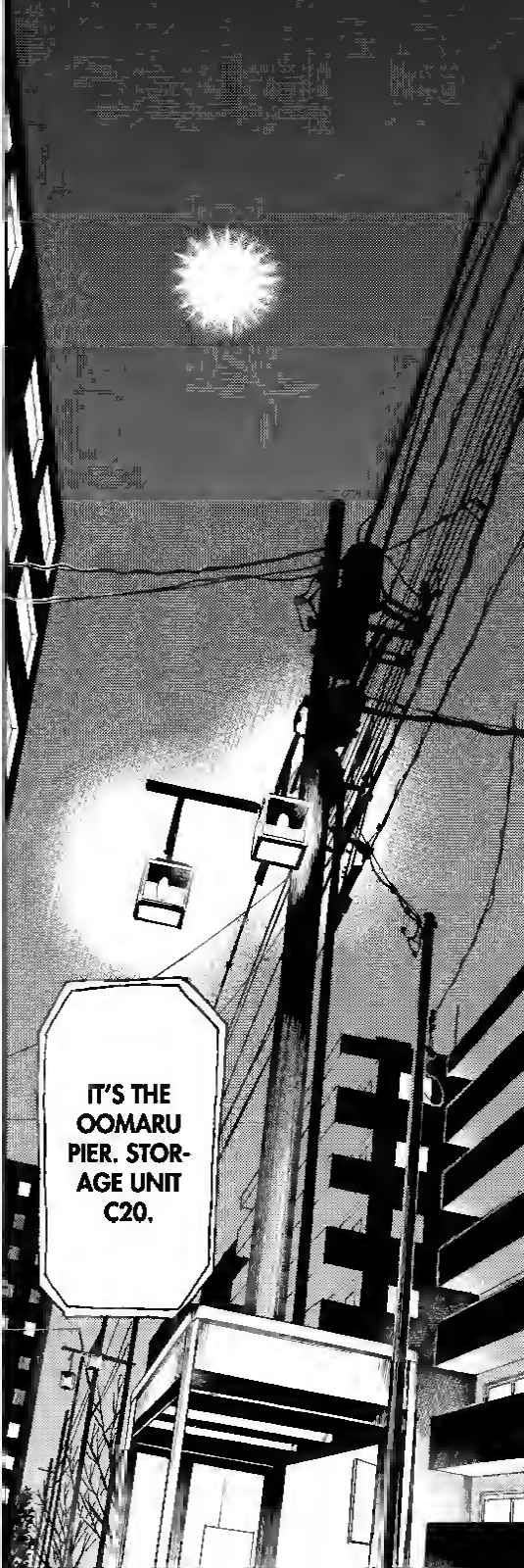
I ALSO LEARNED...
...WHERE SHE IS.


READING MINDS OVER THE PHONE SERIOUSLY DRAINS ME...
NEVER MIND THAT. THE MANAGER'S IN CAHDDTS WITH THE TRAFFICKERS.
THEY ALREADY TOOK KITTY AWAY.
!

GASP
GASP
GASP
HELLO... HEY... HOSHI-SAN.
SAKU...
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE BREATHING SO HEAVILY.



UGH...


IT'S THE OOMARU PIER. STOR-AGE UNIT C20.

YOUR RIDE WILL BE HERE SOON.
ONE TRIP TO AN OLD PERVERT IN OKINAWA.
GOD, SHE PUT UP ONE HELL OF A FIGHT.
!
YO, SHE'S AWAKE.
WHY?
"WHY" NOTHING, BITCH.
A BUYER SETTLED ON YOU A LONG TIME AGO.
YEAH..
DID YOU SERIOUSLY THINK YDU ALONE WDULD STAY SAFE?
EVEN IF YDU COULD GO BACK TD HDNG KONG..
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS? YOU MADE SOME MONEY HERE, AND HAD SOME GOOD TIMES, RIGHT?
I DON'T WANT THIS. I WANT TO RETURN TO HONG KONG.
YOU SAID YOU LIVED IN A HOUSE WHERE YOU COULD SEE ALL OF HONG KONG AT NIGHT, RIGHT?
YOU HAD AN INTERESTING CHAT TODAY, DIDN'T YOU?
OH...
...YOU'D JUST REVERT TO BEING A PICKPOCKET AND SMALL-TIME SLUM THIEF, WOULDN'T YOU?

I ACTUALLY CONSIDERED GRABBING YOU EARLIER, ON YOUR WAY BACK.
BUT YOU AND THE NEW GIRL WERE HAVING SO MUCH FUN, I THOUGHT I'D CHECK IT OUT A WHILE.
YOU WERE LISTENING TO US?
!
DID YOU HAVE FUN PLAYING BUDDIES WITH HER ONE LAST TIME?
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN YOU GET FRIENDLY WITH ANOTHER GIRL.
WERE YOU TRYING TO IMPRESS THAT JAPANESE CHICK?
YUUMA WAS HER NAME, YEAH?
SHE'LL FETCH A HIGH PRICE.
YOU'VE ONLY SEEN IT FROM THE BOTTOM, RIGHT?
A VIEW OF VICTORIA HARBOR AT NIGHT, HUH?
WHAT KIND OF A RICH KID ARE YOU?
OF COURSE, YOU AREN'T.

CRUNCH
ゴッ
OUCH!
SHE'S PROBABLY JUST A PIECE OF TRASH LIKE YOU.
SHE AIN'T NO DIFFERENT FROM YOU.
YEAH? HOW SO?
SHE'S DIFFER-ENT.
YOU... DON'T YOU TOUCH YUUMA.
SPURT
ぶー
はなぢ NOSE-BLEED
I'M SAYING SHE'S DIF-FERENT FROM GAR-BAGE LIKE YOU AND ME!
YOU WANNA GET KILLED? IS THAT IT, HUH?!
ビッ
CRACK
Y-YOU... LITTLE...
...BITCH!

SMASH
CLATTER
CLATTER
HUH?

HUH... I WONDER IF HE'S DEAD.

WHO...
PRESS
HUH?
MOAN
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
OH
HE'S ALIVE
!
STAY AWAY FROM ME!
YU...
YUMA?
GRR...
LET GO OF HER.

GLINT
DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'VE DONE?
SHOVE IT. AND STOP PRETENDING TO BE SUCH A GOOD FRIEND.
SO YOU'VE COME TO SAVE YOUR FRIEND. AIN'T THAT SWEET?
BUT YOU'RE A MORON. MY FRIENDS WILL BE HERE SOON.
AND THEN, WE'LL TAKE YOU, TOO.
!
STOP IT, YOU JERK!
JUST SO YOU KNOW, MISS...
SHE ISN'T WORTH SAVING.
WE HAD A DEAL WITH HER... SHE HELPS US, AND WE DON'T SELL HER.
SHE'S BEEN TRICKING THE OTHER GIRLS.
SHE'D CAUSE TROUBLE BETWEEN THE OTHER GIRLS AT THE PUB, SO NO ONE WOULD FIND IT STRANGE WHEN THEY DISAPPEARED
I BET YOU'VE NOTICED, RIGHT?
GRIP
SHE'S HELPED US OUT A LOT.
TOO BAD YOU TRIED TO HELP A GIRL LIKE THIS, AND NOW YOU'RE ALSO...

YOU'RE GONNA...

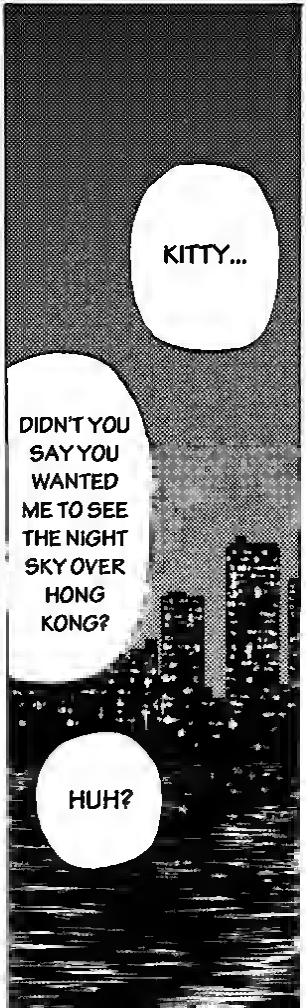
ギャーッ
GAH
ズズーン
SMASH

YUUMA...
WHAT ARE YOU...

FOR NOW, LET'S JUST GET AWAY FROM HERE.
SORRY I SCARED YOU.
YUUMA...
.....
THEY SAID THIS WAS STOLEN.
GLORIA'S WATCH?
WHAT'S IT DOING IN KITTY'S ROOM?
DO YOU BE-LIEVE WHAT THEY SAID?

I DON'T THINK I CARE.
I DON'T KNOW...

I'LL SHOW IT TO YOU.
IT ISN'T HONG KONG, THOUGH...

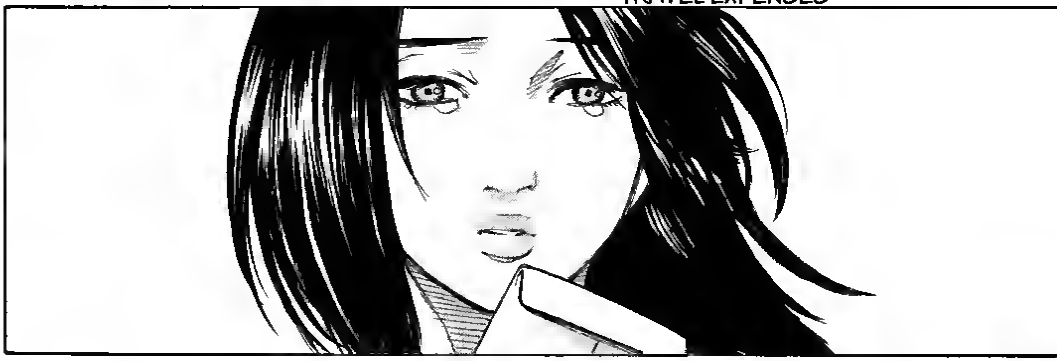

KITTY...
DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WANTED ME TO SEE THE NIGHT SKY OVER HONG KONG?
HUH?

NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF PERSON YOU ARE,
YOU'RE STILL MY FRIEND.
THAT'S ALL.

.....
YUU-MA.

IT'S BEAUTIFUL...
.....
KITTY...
DON'T ASK ME ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT WHO I AM.
IN RETURN, I WON'T ASK YOU ANYTHING ABOUT YOURSELF.
IT ISN'T LIKE WE OWE EACH OTHER ANYTHING.
THIS IS GOODBYE, KITTY... SEE YOU.

AH!
USE THIS TO HELP YOURSELF GET HOME.
TRAVEL EXPENSES



LET'S MEET AGAIN. ONCE ALL THIS IS BEHIND US.